



October 2007 Newsletter

THE IOWA AFTERSCHOOL ALLIANCE HAS BEEN AWARDED A UNITED WAY OF CENTRAL IOWA ADVOCACY GRANT FOR THE 2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

In September the Iowa Afterschool Alliance was awarded one of nine Advocacy Grants from the United Way of Central Iowa. The award, totaling \$7500, will be used for direct lobbying at the State Legislature during the 2008 session. The IAA is currently working in coordination with other prominent organizations to finalize a comprehensive, statewide policy agenda for afterschool. The 2008 policy agenda will primarily focus on capacity-building issues such as funding and infrastructure for sustainability. When finalized, the agenda will be available on the [Iowa Afterschool Alliance website](#).

The IAA Policy work group meets monthly in Des Moines. The Policy work group develops the annual legislative agenda, creates an advocacy strategy, and works to align and inform policies that support afterschool. If you would like more information on this work group and others, please contact Michelle Rich at 515-243-2000, or email mrich@sppg.com.

BRENDA HERVEY WELCOMED AS IOWA AFTERSCHOOL AMBASSADOR TO THE NATIONAL AFTERSCHOOL ALLIANCE.

Brenda Hervey has been the program director for the Beyond the Bell program in Sioux City, Iowa, for five years. Ms. Hervey has a strong background in non-profit management, and this, combined with her passion for youth and education, has helped her expand afterschool programming from just six to now twenty-one sites in Sioux City. Each year the Beyond the Bell program serves 1,600 students both before and after school, as well as more than 900 during the summer.

IAA PARTNERSHIPS ARE INTEGRAL TO ITS EFFECTIVENESS.

The Iowa Afterschool Alliance depends upon its community partnerships for message visibility and leadership support. The following is a list of a few partners that have been integral to the effectiveness of the Iowa Afterschool Alliance in the past year:

[Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development](#)

[Iowa Department of Education](#)

[Iowa Community Education Association](#)

[Iowa Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General](#)

[Office of Governor & Lt. Governor of Iowa](#)

[Iowa State Education Association](#)

[ISU Extension - 4-H Youth Development](#)

[Iowa Department of Human Services](#)

[Iowa Commission on the Status of Women](#)

[Chrysalis Foundation](#)

[United Way of Central Iowa](#)

[Iowa Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning](#)

[Iowa Workforce Development](#)



The Iowa Afterschool Alliance (IAA) Newsletter is a monthly venue of information and updates on afterschool programs and policies. For more information, please contact Brooke Findley at bfindley@sppg.com or 515-243-2000.

For more information on our partners, or to learn more about becoming an IAA partner, please visit the [Iowa Afterschool Alliance website](#), or contact Brooke Findley at 515-243-2000 or bfindley@sppg.com.

GOVERNOR CULVER PROCLAIMS OCTOBER 18TH LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY IN IOWA!

In his proclamation, "Keeping the Lights On After School," Iowa Governor Chet Culver enthusiastically endorses the mission of the *Lights On Afterschool* events across the state and country taking place on October 18th. These events are designed to raise awareness of the integral role played by afterschool programs in their respective communities. By proclaiming October 18th *Lights On Afterschool Day* in Iowa, Governor Culver has exhibited the support for afterschool the IAA strives to foster and maintain in our state.

For the full text of the Governor's proclamation, please visit the [Iowa Afterschool Alliance website](#).

Get your own civic leaders to release a proclamation on afterschool! Please contact Brenda Hervey, Iowa's Afterschool Ambassador to the National Afterschool Alliance, at bhervey@siouxlandy.org for sample language and ideas on how to contact leaders.

PLEASE SEND US YOUR LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL PHOTOS!

As of October 9, over 25 programs had listed their local *Lights On Afterschool!* event on the [National Afterschool Alliance website](#). Whether your event was listed or not, please send us photos from your event, as well as any important information you would like to share with the Iowa Afterschool Alliance. Please send your pictures to Michelle at mrich@sppg.com.

PROJECT AFTERSCHOOL FOR ALL

YOUR PLEDGE OF SUPPORT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER!

Begun in 2004 as Project 2010, Project Afterschool for All is a national movement striving to make universal afterschool a legislative priority across the

country. Signing on to Project Afterschool for All is easy. Simply go to the [Project Afterschool for All website](#) to sign up!

Pledging your support to Project Afterschool for All is more important than ever. Legislative sessions are gearing up and we need to let our leaders know our policy priorities! The Iowa Afterschool Alliance has signed on its support for the Project, and fellow supporters include:

[Ottumwa YMCA](#)
[Iowa State University](#)
[Iowa Commission on the Status of Women](#)
[Keokuk Community School District](#)

[New Directions, Davenport](#)

Over 16,000 individuals, civic leaders, organizations, and businesses have pledged their support nationally for Project Afterschool for All. Please join us in supporting this revolutionary movement!

Please visit the [Project Afterschool For All website](#) for more information and to sign up as a partner.

14 MILLION AMERICAN STUDENTS DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO SUPERVISED ACTIVITIES BETWEEN 3 AND 6PM!

New publications released recently highlight the ever-increasing need for quality afterschool programming in our communities.

- 14 million American students – a quarter of all school-age kids – do not have access to a supervised activity between 3 and 6 p.m.
- Studies show that students who spend no time in afterschool programs are almost 50% more likely to have used drugs and 37% more likely to become teen parents than students who have participated in an afterschool program for one to four hours per day.

Source: Stengel, Richard. "A Time to Serve." *Time Magazine*, Aug 30, 2007.

Researchers have previously noted that many of the advantages children receive from preschool

experiences begin to wane as they continue through school. A study by James Heckman, a Nobel Prize-winning economist at the University of Chicago and an expert on early childhood education, now shows for the first time that systematic interventions throughout childhood and adolescence could sustain the early gains and build on them. A few highlights of the study were the following:

- With early childhood intervention, high school graduation rates would increase to 65 percent and college enrollment to 12 percent. Participation in crime would decrease.
- Combining early childhood intervention with high school intervention would increase high-school graduation rates to 84 percent and college participation rates to 27 percent.
- Disadvantaged children who received balanced additional attention throughout childhood would fare even better with more than 90 percent of those students graduating from high school and 37 percent attending college. Conviction and probation rates would fall to just 2.6 percent.

Source: University of Chicago News Office, Nov. 15, 2006.

View the news release [here](#).

An in-depth study, *Every Child, Every Promise: Turning Failure Into Action*, commissioned by the American's Promise Alliance, measures the presence and impact of the five fundamental resources – or “Five Promises” – that research has shown affect the development and lives of America’s youth:

- Caring adults
- Safe places and constructive use of time
- A healthy start and development
- An effective education
- Opportunities to make difference helping others

The new report finds that children receiving four or five Promises, as compared to youth receiving zero to one Promise, are far more likely to be successful,

including being twice as likely to get A’s, twice as likely to avoid violence, and 40 percent more likely to volunteer. Moreover, the research shows that receiving four or five of these basic developmental resources has the potential to level the playing field for youth across racial and economic lines.

Source: America’s Promise Alliance, 2006.

To view the full report, visit the [America’s Promise Alliance website](#).

IOWA COMMUNITY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION FALL CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 15 & 16, 2007

Building Stronger Schools and Communities Together

Learn ways to strengthen your school district and build community relations from experts in education, administration, community development, and the private sector whose proven strategies will help you to succeed. Workshops and special events will include: steps to create and build a shared use facility; civic and community engagement; building strong community relations; character development through community; lunch honoring community education districts, book sale, and food collection.

Please visit the [Iowa Community Education Association website](#) to register and view the Conference brochure.

GRANTS TRAINING OFFERED NOVEMBER 26-30, 2007

Junior Achievement of Central Iowa is offering the *Grantsmanship Training Program* November 26-30, 2007 in Des Moines. Those interested are invited to participate in this one-of-a-kind workshop widely recognized as the “gold standard” of grants training.

For more information please visit [Grantsmanship Center website](#), or Junior Achievement of Central Iowa at 515-279-9602.